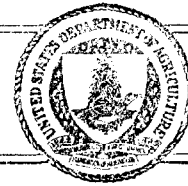


U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Office of Information  
Press Service



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Release - Immediate

February 7, 1930.

NINETY DUCKS COST HUNTER \$2,700

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The largest fine thus far assessed against one person for violation of the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act--\$2,700-- was imposed January 29 in Federal court at Portland, Maine, Judge Peters presiding.

In December a resident of Boston, Mass., aided by his employees, killed eider ducks in Washington County, Maine. Under the Federal regulations there is no open season on eider ducks. Ninety eider ducks were seized and a criminal in-formation filed. The defendant pleaded guilty, and the court imposed the severe penalty of \$30 for each eider duck killed, the total fine amounting to \$2,700, which was promptly paid.

Paul G. Redington, chief of the Biological Survey, which administers the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, says the case should serve as a warning to gunners who are inclined to kill migratory game birds for which no open season is prescribed, or to hunt other game out of season. The Federal regulations do not provide an open season on eider ducks. The only way these birds can be taken legally is under both State and Federal permits issued for strictly scientific or propagating purposes.

The prosecution of this case was handled by United States Attorney Frederick R. Dyer, and the evidence was obtained by U. S. Game Protector B. E. Smith, of the Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, assisted by U. S. Deputy Game Warden William A. Foley.

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